

## HOUSE RESOLUTION 43

By Harmon

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Jim Gentry for his  
laudable service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Jim Gentry, who has served with acumen and alacrity during a lifelong career in the automobile sales business; he owns an exemplary Kimball automobile dealership that is built on customer service and family values; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gentry was born into the trade; his esteemed father, Abb Hembree Gentry, started a used car business in South Pittsburg in 1929, and soon acquired a Chevrolet dealership in 1932; and

WHEREAS, in 1952, Mr. Gentry, at a youthful fifteen years old, started working in his father's business; five years later, he very capably took on the responsibilities of secretary-treasurer; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, Mr. Gentry, having diligently mastered the trade, became a full partner in the dealership with his father, and eventually the sole owner after Abb Gentry's passing in 1979; and

WHEREAS, the thriving Kimball dealership boasts thirty-one employees and 300 to 400 vehicles, both new and used, which are in inventory at any given time; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure in the automobile sales business, Jim Gentry has distinguished himself as a public spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gentry has held leadership positions in a variety of noteworthy civic organizations, including service as president of the South Pittsburg Jaycees, state vice

president of the Tennessee Jaycees, and president of the Marion County Chamber of Commerce; he also lends his time and talents to the South Pittsburg Rotary Club; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gentry is a faithful and devout member of First Baptist Church in South Pittsburg; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, he is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his wife, Wanda Gentry; together they are the proud parents of three children, Melanie Huddleston, Tom Thomas, and Mary Catherine Gentry, and the loving grandparents of Jimmy Huddleston; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Jim Gentry for his dedication to both his community and to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend Jim Gentry for his meritorious service to the good people of Tennessee as we extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.